

27-300 1-lb. loaves to the barrel.

When You Begin Baking for Christmas

—be sure to have on hand the flour that will insure best results. The tests of many years in hundreds of homes have established beyond all doubt that the best flour for Christmas baking is

"Cream Blend,"

The Perfect Flour.

For making Cakes, Pies and Puddings, "Cream Blend" is without a peer. The Bread, Rolls and Biscuits it yields are light, nourishing and delicious.

Remember, your order for holiday supplies will not be complete without Cream Blend Flour.

AT YOUR GROCER'S.

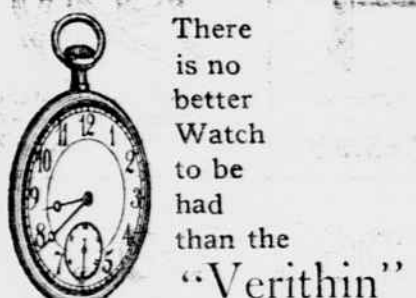
B. B. Earnshaw & Bro.,
Wholesalers, 1105, 1107, 1109 11th st. s. e.

Give Something That's Useful.

Here are a few gift suggestions. Every article listed is reasonably priced and fully guaranteed.

- Tool Chests.**
Empty Tool Chests, \$1 to \$16
Tool Chests, \$3 to \$20
(Filled with guaranteed tools.)
2-pc. Stag-handle Carving Sets, \$1.00
3-pc. Stag-handle Carving Sets, \$2.50
(In a nice case.)
Six White-handle Table Knives, \$1.75
Pocket Knives (guaranteed), 25c., 50c., 75c., and \$1.00
The Celebrated Gillette Safety Razors, \$5.00
Guaranteed Razors, \$1.00

John B. Espey,
Hardware, 1010 Pa. Ave.



There is no better watch to have than the "Verithin".
—It takes up no more room in your pocket than a silver dollar.
It's a watch we can fully recommend. Shown in gold and silver—saves for ladies and men.

Berry & Whitmore Co.,
Jewelry—Silverware—Stationery,
F and Eleventh Sts.
de-11-10-40

There's not a particle of sediment in Sparkling Ale

It pours out clear and brilliant to the last drop. A high-grade ale. 2 dozen \$1.50
bottles, \$1.50
Washington Brewery Co.,
3th and F sts. n. e. Phone E 254.
de-11-10-40

Specials at the A. & P. Stores.
Iona Corn, Special, 5c. can
Iona Tomatoes, Special, 5c. can
Imported Worcester Sauce, Special, 10c. bottle
Colman's Mustard, Special, 10c. bottle
German Mustard, Special, 10c. bottle
Imported Russian Caviare, 25c. bottle
GREAT Atlantic and Pacific TEA CO.
Main Store, Cor. 7th and E sts. n. e.
Branches in all parts of the city.
Stands in all markets.
de-11-10-40

Xmas Special:
12 bottles choice
To-Kalon products
—packed in plain
cases—all for
1 bot. Chateau, 1 bot. Brandy,
1 bot. Whisky, 1 bot. Port,
1 bot. Sherry, 1 bot. Muscatel,
1 bot. Angelica, 1 bot. Madeira,
1 bot. Benedictine, 1 bot. Tokay,
1 bot. Chartreuse, 1 bot. Sauterne.
We ship these Xmas packages free of charge.
WINE CO.
614 14th St.
de-11-10-40

COFFEES ROASTED EVERY HOUR.

We can save you as much on coffee as we do on poultry, game, vegetables, wines and liquors, and groceries, all of which we carry a full line.

"Old Santos," 15c. pound.
Java and Mocha, 25c. pound.
Fine coffees at 20c., 25c. and 30c.,
—all from 5c. to 10c. less than
others ask.
P. K. CHACONAS & CO.
Greenwich, Wines, Liquors and Fancy Fruits,
9th and La. Ave.
de-11-10-40

A SON OF SOLOMON

Interesting Facts About the King of Abyssinia.

IS A FRIEND OF PROGRESS

The Observations of Consul General Skinner.

THE TREATY WITH MENELIK

Finances of the Kingdom Farmed Out to Two Foreigners—Railway Being Built.

BY WILLIAM E. CURTIS.

Written for The Star and the Chicago Record-Herald.

The press associations give us contradictory reports from Abyssinia. One day we are told that King Menelik, "The Lion of the Tribe of Judah," "The Chosen of the



The Empress of Ethiopia (in the center) and the Emperor's Grandchild.

Lord, "The King of Kings," is dead or dying, and the next day the statement is contradicted. Abyssinia is a poor place to look for accurate news. There are no newspapers in the country, correspondents are very scarce, and the gentle art of writing is not so well developed as it is in the District of Columbia and at other capitals. Mr. Robert P. Skinner, of Massillon, Ohio, and our consul general at Marseilles, in a charming book entitled "Abyssinia of Today," which has just been published, says that Menelik "knew of our war with Spain and he had a realization, though vague, of our might and power. His thirst for information is phenomenal. Europeans in the east, where newspapers are scarce and slow in coming, fall back upon a very useful institution, called Reuters'. Reuters' is a news-gathering concern, whose brief telegrams are sent to those able to afford this luxury. They come in typewritten sheets, and are usually to be seen at hotels and the clubs of the seacoast cities. When a week's dispatches have accumulated, they are sent by the mail-boat from Aden to Djibouti, whence they are reforwarded to Dire-Daouah. Here the English is put into French, and the important facts are immediately telegraphed to Addis-Ababa, the longer dispatches following by a courier, to be translated into Amharic for the delectation of the emperor.

His majesty speaks no language but Amharic, unless, perhaps, one or two of the local dialects. He doubtless recognizes a number of the commonly used French expressions, and on the day when we left the city he paid us a delicate compliment by saying in English, "How do?" He has always at hand a very competent interpreter, who is also his private secretary. M. Sourvis, a Greek gentleman who speaks French, Spanish, Italian and English, our conversations were invariably carried on in French, as between the interpreter and myself; indeed, French is the only foreign language one hears much of in Ethiopia. There are no English merchants in the empire, although there are hundreds of Frenchmen scattered throughout the country. Many of the natives have a smattering of French and servants seem to pick it up more readily than they do English. Mr. Skinner, you know, went to Ethiopia in the capacity of consul general, and as a special commissioner from the government of the United States to open up relations between one of the oldest governments and one of the newest, and he negotiated a commercial treaty with the son of Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. Abyssinia is very little known, although, as Mr. Skinner declares, "The opportunity for fruitful historical and linguistic research is a most tempting one. We devote millions to the uncovering of ancient cities dead," he says, "and we neglect an ancient civilization living; a civilization which found its inspiration in Solomon's court, and which, preserving its Christian faith through sixteen hundred years, and during many centuries cut off from all contact with the outside world, has become a new and original racial entity, identical with that which prevailed in Bethlehem two thousand years ago. It is a trust that the earnest student of the world's history and the necessities of the world's commerce will have passed away forever."

The Abyssinians are Christians. They accepted Christianity in the fourth century, but still retaining many of their ancient Mosaic laws and customs. As Mr. Skinner says, their judges "administer justice based upon the precepts of the open Bible in their hands." Abyssinian tradition recognizes Menelik as a descendant of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, who is identified as Makeda, Queen of Ethiopia, born 1020 B. C. and placed upon the throne at the age of fifteen. One of Solomon's generals, Hiram, by name, while on a visit to Ethiopia, saw Makeda, the Queen of the South, and upon his return to Jerusalem, gave Solomon such a glowing account of her beauty that, although he had several hundred wives already, the wisest of kings sent an embassy to her with a letter begging her to marry him. "The Chosen of the Lord," as God, Clement and Merciful, Solomon, servant of God, and son of

David, to make a Queen of the South. Let peace be with him who follows the light." Makeda declined at first to go to Jerusalem and sent Solomon 1,000 slaves and gifts of gold, spices and amber, but he would not receive the gifts, and hurried Hiram back to Ethiopia with a stern message that he would send an army to humiliate the queen's advisers. That was the way Solomon made love. The Queen of Sheba (the south), from which we get the word "Sheba," decided to go to Jerusalem to see Solomon, and, as the Bible puts it, "to prove him with hard questions." She departed with great pomp and entered Jerusalem mounted upon a mule with a large retinue, followed by camels bearing presents of gold and precious stones. She was received by the king, who attended her in an apartment decorated with crystal from ceiling to floor. Solomon had arranged for her a throne similar to the one she had left behind, constructed of silver and gold, ornamented with rubies and emeralds. Under the crystal floor could be seen a running brook filled with rare fish, and so cunningly was it all contrived that the queen believed herself about to cross a stream and lifted up her skirt.

"Solomon, on his side, had not been insensitive to the charms of the beautiful queen, and Makeda responded with an equal affection. The result of this mutual admiration was the birth of Makeda's son, Menelik I. Rich presents were exchanged and Makeda returned to her kingdom several months after, leading with her Azariah, son of the great preacher Sadoh, and 12,000 Jews, that is to say, 1,000 from each tribe, commanded by twelve judges.

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"The child Menelik, reared with his mother until he became of sufficient age to go himself to Jerusalem, where he was instructed by wise men and profited by the lessons of Solomon himself. When Menelik passed several years at Jerusalem, and when arrived at the age of manhood

he was appointed and consecrated as King of Abyssinia in the temple at Jerusalem, under the name of David, and returned to his mother in the year 967 B. C. "It is said that Solomon caused copies of the Ark of the Covenant and the Tables of the Law to be prepared for his son Menelik, which were the originals that he carried off to Ethiopia. The substitution, either accidental or intentional, was not discovered until too late, and Azariah deposited the precious relics in the church at Axum. It is pretended—perhaps one should not insist upon the evidence—that one of these original Tables of the Law was sealed and venerated at Axum until this very day."

Mr. Skinner tells an interesting story. His adventures were novel and his ex-

periences unique, although at least two Americans, Mr. MacMillan of St. Louis and Mr. Otto F. Crosby of Washington, preceded him to the capital of Abyssinia. The treaty negotiated by Mr. Skinner is of very great value, provided our merchants and manufacturers will take advantage of it. As the old lady said about religion, "It is a good thing if it's lived up to," but unless our people go down with samples and introduce their wares to the notice of the Abyssinians, they are not likely to do so. It is a singular fact that indirectly through a commercial house at Marseilles we supply a considerable part of the country's goods and other necessities of life used by the Abyssinians. A Swiss firm which does a large business in Abyssinia, with headquarters at Marseilles, has a branch office on Wall street in New York.

"Although King Menelik is independent, his government is very largely controlled by Alfred Hug, a Swiss, and Leon Chefnuey, a Frenchman, who have lived many years in the country and have the confidence of the emperor and the people. They have a concession to handle the finances of the government for ninety-nine years and the right to collect an ad valorem duty of 10 per cent upon all merchandise entering or leaving the country, with a provision that when their net annual profit exceeds \$3,000,000 the surplus shall be divided equally with the government. These gentlemen are building a railroad from the port of Djibouti in French Somaliland on the Gulf of Aden to Addis-Ababa, the capital of Abyssinia. They have finished it as far as Harar, 310 kilometres, and expect to complete the remaining 200 miles within the next two or three years, when the primitive conditions of Ethiopia will doubtless be rapidly supplanted by the customs of modern civilization. The emperor is progressive and is stimulating the ambition of the young men of his country to work for the betterment of their country to fit themselves for future opportunities and responsibilities.

"Exceedingly few persons are able to read and write," Mr. Skinner says. "The schools seem unable to get beyond the instruction in the gospel. The emperor, however, is the exception, and the eagerness with which the emperor inquired about modern civilization and says: 'It is doubtful whether any practical statesman, certainly no laboring under the disadvantages of the Emperor Menelik, has any keener appreciation of the forces of the earth. He lifts his eyes up to the point of being able to comprehend and utilize these modern improvements and inventions, and to turn them to their own advantage for the benefit of their country and their national liberty.'"

Interested in Roosevelt.

"He had heard evidently a good many things about President Roosevelt, whose personality interested him very much. He knew him to be a sportsman and hoped that he would one day visit Ethiopia. He wanted to know his age and how he came to be President. He wanted to know the length of our great rivers, the altitude of our cities, and he seemed to classify the great variety of facts which he has been absorbing, and to bring them out again whenever occasion required.

"Addis-Ababa is a new city, not more than a dozen years old. The former capital was the ancient city of Gondar, with a permanent population of some 50,000 souls, including probably 200 Europeans. Aside from the emperor, the city was the headquarters of the legations and the homes of a few Europeans. The buildings are decidedly primitive. They consist, as a rule, of a round lattice-work frame, with mud is thickly plastered, and of thatched roofs. The legations have all been object lessons of the great range of styles which the various builders, instead of undertaking to erect European structures, have produced original forms of native architecture.

The British, French, Italian and Russian governments are all represented at Addis-Ababa, but the role of their representatives is purely political and they are there to watch each other, so as to be off any designs upon Abyssinian territory. Menelik seems to appreciate the situation and to seek the friendship of the United States, which he knows to be disinterested.

Menelik's Appearance.

Mr. Skinner gives us a graphic picture of his majesty as he appeared when the American mission presented their credentials. "The lion of the tribe of Judah, the king of kings, the chosen of the Lord, sat in an audience hall, the roof of which was supported by pillars of timber. The floor was completely carpeted by oriental rugs, incongruously mixed with the products of French and German looms. Back of the lines formed by the pillars on either side were massed hundreds of the chief people of Addis-Ababa, garbed like the soldiers in multi-colored tunic and waiting in respectful silence.

"In the farther end of the chamber sat the emperor upon his divan or throne. The divan was placed upon a platform extending entirely across the audience hall and under a canopy supported by four gilded columns, the gift of the French republic. On each side of the throne stood two young princes holding guns, and back of it, and extending on both sides until they merged into the crowds waiting in the ante-chamber, stood the ministers, judges and officers of the court. A subdued light softened the colors and blended them harmoniously. Our small column, both officers and men, advanced halfway across the wide and empty space, where the four officers bowed. In complete silence the procession continued on to the elevation upon which the throne stood. Here the party, other than the commissioners, halted, the latter stopping forward to shake hands in the most friendly and informal manner with the emperor, who held out his own hand and smiled cordially.

Sourvis, the official interpreter and private secretary of the emperor, facilitated the exchange of conversation. His majesty wore the costume familiar to his subjects, photographs. He sat in oriental fashion, his legs crossed and his arms supported by his hands, which were clasped in his lap, bare, revealing the snowy white undergarments, and around his head a white handkerchief was closely bound. He also wore diamond ear-drops and several rings on both hands. His face was full of intelligence, and his manners those of a gentleman as well as those of a king."

Natural Thought.

From the Yonkers Statesman.

Patience, see in Nova Scotia the experiment has been made of running a train with hammocks in the cars.

Patience, "Why are there lots of tunnels in Nova Scotia?"

Kind the President Drinks?

"I'm afraid I will lose some of these pack-

ages," the woman continued, when a large man, with pockets bulging and face shining with the prospects of a varied breakfast next morning, brushed against her. "What a cold that makes me shiver!" I wonder if Mrs. Roosevelt really does give it to the President. I did want to try some of that jelly dessert, but I ate so much I couldn't swallow any more."

"Maw, can't we go back and get some more of that hot dog?" exclaimed the youngster, tugging at her hand, suddenly catching the smell of the King of Loeffler's sausage protruding from the sack in his mother's arms. The remark attracted attention to the boy. "He was holding a checker-board given away at the 'Velvet Kind' booth, had a 'Tidy Bear' mask, given away at the 'Non-Such Mine' booth, and upon the front of his coat was an array of pastebord pickles, baby pictures, lady's hat pins and spangled designs."

Plane Contest.

Continuous streams of women and men, heavily laden like the woman mentioned, wended their way from Convention Hall last night. Many were talking of the piano contest, which is being conducted by the F. G. Smith Piano Company. All those who visit that booth are given balloons, all of which are numbered. By writing his name on one of the balloons and depositing it in the huge piano box in the booth, used as the ballot box, each person has a chance to get a piano free. A little girl will be put into the ballot box Saturday evening, December 15, the last night of the show, and she will pick out a ballot. The holder of a ticket bearing the number will be presented with a piano.

"Why Knot? Why Knot?" is a sign which halts many patrons of the show in front of the booth of the Manhattan Coffee Mills, in charge of Mr. Danenberg. There is a holiday shopping rush in front of the booth most of the time for a cup of the famous "Knot" tea.

Tonight 500 packages of Red Rose Ceylon tea will be given away.

Gifts Are Plentiful

AT THE GIFT STORE.

THE selecting of a Gift isn't an unalloyed pleasure unless you have such a stock as this to select from. The whole store is crowded with giveable things—gifts for men, gifts for women, gifts for children. And there's practically no limit to the variety of suggestions suitable in all cases.

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Dainty Pieces of FRENCH CHINA.

At attractively low prices. The French Jewelry has become more and more popular as it becomes more and more known. An extensive collection here—Pins, Brooches, Bracelets, Belt Buckles, etc.

Genuine Garnet Lavallieres, \$10 to \$20.
Mosaic Lavallieres, Necklaces, \$2 to \$5.
Mosaic Brooches, 25c. to \$1.

The display of this beautiful imported hand-painted China is complete so far as variety is concerned—and embraces a piece of unusual merit. Prices, \$1 to \$20.
Venetian Glass, \$1 to \$15.

A stock that is exclusive and embraces everything desirable from the simple but artistic plain comb to the most elaborate jeweled creation.

SIDE AND BACK COMBS.

Half Price

For Undressed Dolls, Children's Books and Games, French Bisque Figures and Ornaments, and Metal Trinkets.

A clearance sale that we have inaugurated at a most opportune time.

Ogram's Gift Store,

13th and Penna. Ave., Adjoining the Drug Store.

"A Seasonable Gift Hath Pleasure for two"

THE ELGIN WATCH

makes the ideal Christmas gift, and the G. M. WHEELER grade Elgin movement proves it. An accurate time-keeper of popular price—seventeen jewels—in the new thin model. Ask your jeweler to show it to you.

ELGIN NATIONAL WATCH CO., ELGIN, ILL.

Want "Jim Crow" Cars for Asiatics.

The San Francisco Merchants' Exchange has petitioned the Southern Pacific Company to provide "Jim Crow" cars on the suburban lines for Japanese and Chinese.

The exchange asserts that Asiatics through the ferryboats in such numbers that who persons are fortunate to be able to get on the cars. Particularly is this true, the members declare, on the narrow-gauge line running from the Alameda pier and passing through the oriental quarter of Oakland.

This statement is just as true as the assertion that the Japanese are crowding the white children out of the schools. On the Alameda line one finds about as many orientals as one finds negroes in the 6th avenue elevators in New York in the evening. The Southern Pacific is giving a very cold reception to the petition—so chilly, in fact, that members of the exchange in charge of it have made several visits to the railway offices, and have been unable to find the proper officer to whom to present it.

Paul Schorp, assistant general passenger agent, said in an interview today: "We are not looking for any trouble on the Mongolian question, nor do we wish to take any official action that might injure our business. We shall operate our system as heretofore, and will not discriminate against the Asiatics. There is no law which will enable us to make such a move and not be subject to suit for damages."

Japanese Pay Poll Tax.

This remark about litigation recalls a circumstance which may have some weight in future developments in the education question. The Japanese government is not exactly notorious for leaping before it looks, and it is not at all unlikely that it has one or two cards up its sleeve in case the legal action already begun should fail. Every person who has resided in California for sixty days is supposed to pay a poll tax as a condition of being able to vote.

It is asserted that to save trouble the officers collect the tax from Japanese on their arrival. At any rate, they are made to pay it regularly, while of the white residents of San Francisco perhaps one in three is found who tells you with a wry face that he has been "stuck" for it. This tax is levied for the purpose of keeping up the public schools.

The California newspapers have been remarkably silent regarding this little feature of the affair since the trouble started, and, while accusing President Roosevelt of misrepresentation, continue to make such statements as the following, which is from the Sacramento Union:

"Our schools are their own. We maintain them at our own cost for the nurture of our children. We have no thought of turning them into establishments for the Americanization of orientals."

JAPANESE IN SCHOOLS

Only Ninety-Three of Them Pupils in San Francisco.

WANT "JIM CROW" CARS

Efforts of Merchants to Have Them Installed Fail.

COMPELLED TO PAY POLL TAX

California Newspapers Silent About Some of the Matters Relating to the Orientals.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 8.—Investigation has shown that the number of Japanese pupils in the San Francisco public schools before the board of education issued its famous order separating them from the white children was ninety-three. The board of education admits this figure is accurate. There are about seventy primary and grammar schools in the city. Forty-seven had no Japanese scholars.

With the exception of two schools, the number of Japanese in attendance at any one did not exceed six. The greatest number of Japanese was in the Redding primary school, where there were twenty-three. At this school there is room for a good many more pupils than are attending.

Of the ninety-three pupils, there was more than twenty years old, and only two were as old as that. Six were 19, six 18, twelve 17, nine 16 and ten 15. The remainder were between 6 and 14 years old.

There was not a single case of trachoma among the ninety-three.

In fact of figures such as these, it might be expected that the Californians would drop this particular feature of the anti-Japanese campaign, but instead they seem bent upon pushing it.

At a meeting in Oakland last night it was decided to request the Oakland board of education to follow the example of the San Francisco board and immediately exclude Japanese pupils. Dr. Benjamin Ide Wheeler, president of the University of California, was bitterly censured for alleged interference at Washington. He was there last week, and is accused by Californians of having influenced the President to write the Japanese paragraphs in the message. The message was written long before Dr. Wheeler saw the President, and Dr. Wheeler certainly did not advise the President to take a stand against the Californians and in favor of the Japanese.

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NOBODY GOT A LEMON

VIANDS OF THE DELECTABLE SORT AT FOOD SHOW.

Large Crowd at Convention Hall Last Night and Everybody Goes Away Satisfied.

Nobody was handed a lemon at the food show at Convention Hall last evening. In the large amount of edibles that was bestowed on the unsuspecting public there was nothing that suggested the citrus genus.

Many family circles were broken and heartstones deserted last evening, and the absence—over 3,000 of them—helped to deplete the stock of samples at the various booths at Convention Hall.

How to take home all the samples was the problem which a matron had to face as she was leaving the hall shortly before 11 o'clock last night.

"I've turned in all but one of the coupons, and I couldn't find that booth. I just hunted for an hour for it," she was saying to her woman friend. "It's a new kind of coffee, and the printing says that men never kick at it. Dan says sometimes my coffee is so cold that it makes his teeth ache; but it's always when he's been to the lodge the night before. He seems to want everything strong the next morning."

While she was talking those who were heard wondered how the package that the host couple would have brought was to be secured. Clutching one arm a small sack and dragging a youngster who had been allowed to stay up three hours later than usual as a special favor with the other hand she was struggling under a load that to get through the mass of humanity at the exit. The sack threatened to get away from her as she stepped down from the top was apparently a bouquet of cotton, and now and then the possessor would take a nibble, eating bouquets seemingly having become a new fad introduced at the food show. Out of another corner of the sack a sausage was ranging, some of a Loeffler's brand, of which 250 pounds were given away last night. Apparently itching to unite with the sausage in a sandwich was a live cat, a small fat cat, introduced out of the sack was a bottle of Donaldson-Shufft Company's pickles of the colonial brand, samples of Mother's Oatmeal Borden's Malted Milk and numerous other articles.

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